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GUELPH

THE ROYAL CITY



COMPILED BY

Albert William Drummond

1924

GUELPH

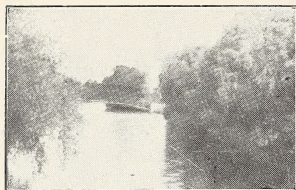
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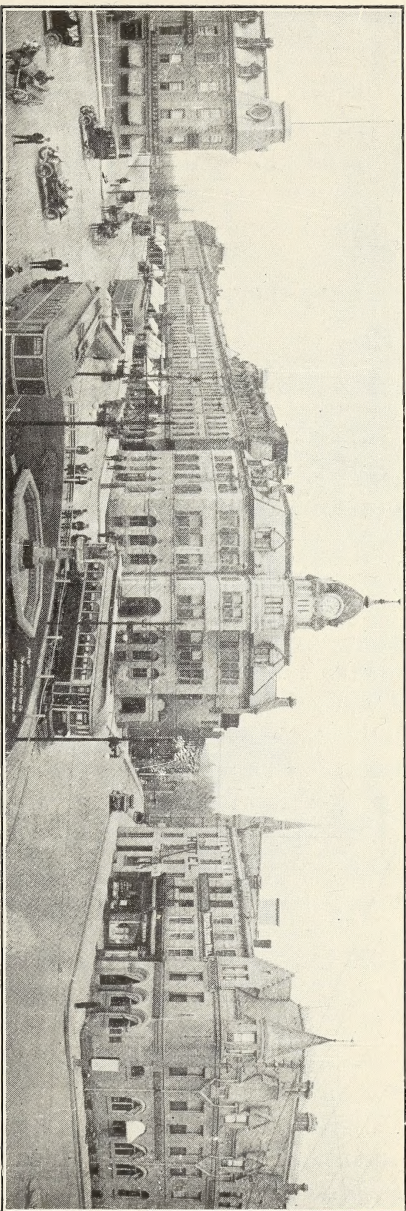


TO THE RIVER SPEED.

Fair Speed, long years have passed and gone
Since sunshine through the branches shone
Of trees, where forest stood, and waved
Unbroken, 'long thy banks still laved
By water rippling quick and clear
E'en as it flowed in natal year;
Then Indian in his haughty pride
Roamed fearless in freedom by thy side.

Fain would we scan each misty page
Through all the changes of an age
Since first the foot of man did tread
Thy banks, and through the leafy glade
Where golden sunset bathed the wood
Alone with God and solitude.

A. W. D.



TO GUELPH.

Guelph; crowning glory of thy founder's fame,
Fair as the pathless wood from whence thou came
Far, and still farther may thy boundaries lie
Held but in trust for men to fashion, after we die
Let us but pass this heritage our pride
On to posterity as ages glide,
Great, and still greater may thou grow apace
Worthy achievement of a pioneer race.

PREFACE

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THE annals of the City of Guelph have been written by pens more mighty than any that I may wield, and by men whose names are today revered in the hearts of men, yet I humbly submit this brief record of the Royal City, and quote freely from their account of the early struggles pertaining thereto.

Their record of achievement I rejoice in, and request my readers to rejoice with me.

If this work can be of any service in the building of a greater city, then for me it has been time well spent. Drawing near to the close of a century, when a new era should bring greater development, a larger outlook, a pride in the achievement of the past, for I know the future holds in store for Guelph—greatness, a people responding to the call of their leaders, and marching forward to a grander and nobler goal.

Only by enterprise will Guelph become a power in the Dominion, only through enterprising manufacturers will goods marked "Made in Guelph" be sold in the marts of the nations. May the city produce men whose untiring effort, combined with ability, will build up greater industries, giving employment to thousands, making our Royal City a city of happy homes.

It is with pleasure that I take the opportunity to thank all who have aided me in compiling this work. To the staff of the Guelph Public Library for their courtesy while engaged in research, to The Guelph Mercury, and Mr. T. J. Hannigan, for their aid in securing views, and last but not least to Mr. O. R. Wallace who encouraged me to place what I had gleaned in print. To my readers I can only say "Read and boost Guelph."

A. W. D.

Guelph

THE ROYAL CITY

CHAPTER 1.

Yon gathered ocean of low hazy clouds
Points out the gorgeous city of commerce
Whose merchants, like the honourable of Tyre,
Are princes 'mid the nations of the earth.
See what a change trade's golden wand can do,
As if by magic make a village spring
To all the glories of a capital.

Dugald Moore.

GUELPH, the County Town of Wellington County, named after the family name of the Royal House of Great Britain, was founded by John Galt, Superintendent of the Canada Company; a company with offices and Directors in London, England. Galt, as Canadian Representative, was commissioned to survey for the purpose of settlement tracts of land in Upper Canada. Founded as a townsitè on the 23rd day of April, 1827, hewn from pathless woods, it stands to-day a city of beautiful homes and streets, with avenues of soft maple and ornamental trees shading its roads and boulevards; surely the dream of the founder as told in his memoirs has come true.

Never was a site chosen that could have been more appropriate for the fulfillment of a high destiny, being the centre of a fertile and prosperous district, 49 miles west of Toronto, 28 miles northwest of Hamilton, 78 miles from Niagara Falls, and 182 miles from Detroit; like Rome, it is a city built upon the hills, yet unlike the Tiber deep and wide, Guelph has the Speed, a picturesque little winding river, flowing calm and serene around the foothills, and through the city, spanned at intervals by beautiful bridges, flowing on and turning the wheels of industry as it follows its course to join the Grand River.

Guelph, being at its highest point 1,143 feet above sea level, is higher than the Muskoka District; therefore, as well as being the Royal City, it is also known as the Healthy City. A population of approximately 20,000 people consisting of English, Irish and Scotch, with a fair mixture of other nationalities make up its citizenship, a healthy and industrious people, having a social as well as a business life that is con-

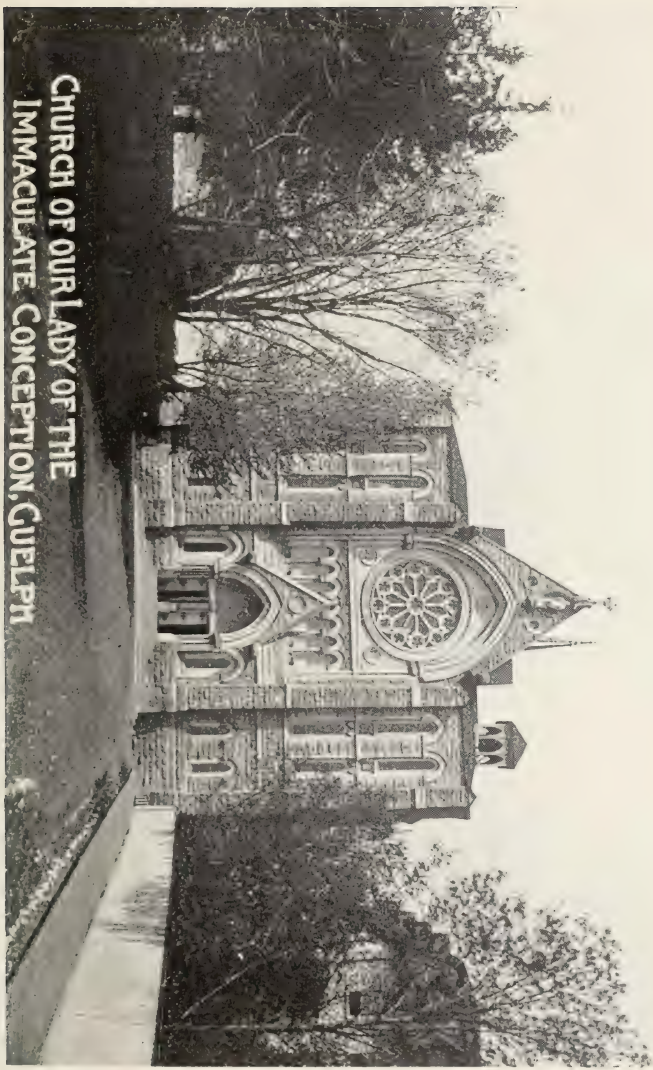
ducive to happiness. Sports of all kind are well patronized; and a beautiful Country Club with a commodious Club House and grounds, comprising in all 87 acres, having a nine hole golf course, is situated on the northern outskirts of the city. Lawn bowling and tennis claim their devotees, among the younger set tennis is the favourite pastime, among the older generation lawn bowling is the one and only game. Baseball claims all, and justly so, for Guelph is the proud possessor of a team that won renown throughout the North American continent; in 1886 the Maple Leaf Baseball Team were champions of North America; 50 games played, 49 won, since then laurels have been heaped upon them; therefore, Guelph may be known as a baseball city. Cricket and football have a fair share of followers, while a rifle and also a canoe club woo many from their cares.

Winter sports are hockey, indoor and outdoor—indoor where teams of worth pit their strength against each other, and outdoor where the coming youngster shows his mettle—skating on the River Speed is a favourite winter pastime; while tobogganing or skiing down the hillside lends a thrill to the nerve, a joy to the heart and sends the blood coursing through the body, making cheeks like roses and fingers that tingle; snowshoe parties may be met along the country roads, their merry laughter adding the touch that bountiful nature just fails to give to the beautiful scene. Curling is indulged in by the older and more sedate citizen, and the cry of “Soop her up mon” can be heard cleaving the icy air.

Numerous beautiful parks are within the city limits, where on summer evenings band concerts may be heard; sweet harmony is dispensed by three bands who claim Guelph as their headquarters, namely, the Guelph Musical Society Band, the Guelph Pipe Band and the Guelph Fife and Drum Band; then again visiting bands from other cities come and play; thus Guelph can also be called the Musical City.

Guelph is the birthplace of Edward Johnson, world famous tenor. Several musical clubs for music lovers to attend are found in the city, chief among these being the Presto Club, the Guelph Musical Society, the College Glee Club and the Dramatic Club, all being well patronized.

The means of meeting fraternally are not forgotten, Guelph having a strong Masonic Order, also Loyal Orangemen and Independent Oddfellows; while the Catholic Societies include the Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Other Societies, both Protestant and Catholic are in the city.



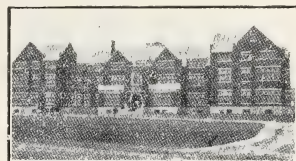
CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, GUELPH

Religious life, and the maintenance of stately churches, mark Guelph as a good City; many beautiful churches adorn the avenues. On a hill and almost in the centre of the city is found the Church of Our Lady Immaculate, a striking landmark and a place of beauty that cannot fail to arrest the attention of the stranger.



Guelph, the Learned City; truly there is a name more worthy than that given Boston the Cultured City. Boston, the hub of the universe, is no more worthy of its culture than Guelph of its educational facilities. The Ontario Agricultural College, famed throughout the world, is situ-

ated on College Heights, and students from near and far, east and west, are in attendance. Macdonald College and Institute are attached to the O.A.C., and here young Canadian womanhood is taught domestic science. The Guelph Collegiate-Vocational Institute, where many of our famous men and women have been educated, is famed for its fine teaching staff and its thorough educational system. Scattered throughout the city and convenient to every district are the Public Schools; also the Catholic Schools, they having for higher education the Loretto Academy. Art and music, always in the foreground in this Royal City, are taught at Loretto Academy.



Two theatres cater to the followers of the Silver Screen; while assembly halls give vent to the pent up exuberance of youth who may wish to indulge in the graceful art of terpsichore.

A civic government, with the Mayor as Chief Magistrate, guides the city in its political destiny. An able and efficient Police Department is maintained; while a splendid fire-fighting unit, under capable officers, provides protection against fire.

Although Guelph is known as the Healthy City, hospitals are required. - Those who may need care will find everything that a modern hospital can give at the General, while St. Joseph's, under the Sisters of St. Joseph, care for the Catholic. The Homewood Sanitarium (Medical Superintendent C. B. Farrar, M.D.) is known and reputed from coast to coast. In

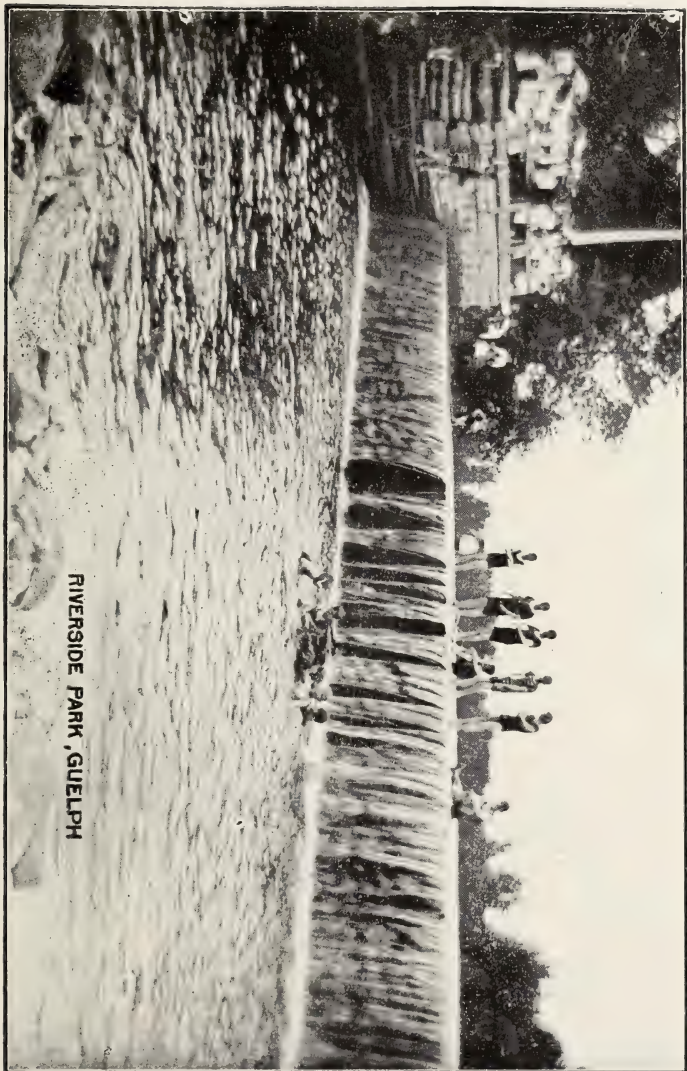
addition to the institutions mentioned there is the Elliott Home.

With social and business life well cared for, the housewife is not forgotten. A fine market where she can fill her basket with good things for the table at prices reasonable is found near the City Hall; while courteous merchants, ever ready to oblige, cater to her needs along Wyndham Street.

The beauty spots amid the surrounding countryside allow for varied means of combined family recreation. Parties may be seen on any summer day lounging on the green sward, or picnicing under the shade of some mighty old tree. Riverside Park, within easy distance of the city, is the Mecca for the bather. Here one may splash and dip at will in the limpid water of the Speed River. Puslinch Lake, 11 miles distant, attracts the summer cottager; while the follower of Izaak Walton may find some cool spot where he may sit and tempt the wary denizens of this beautiful stretch of water. Black bass abound, as the waters are periodically stocked by the Ontario Government. Rockwood, 8 miles from the city, where natural caves of a peculiar geological formation attract many; while Elora, 14 miles distant, will invite the camera; here one may wander amid beauty, climb the mighty rocks, or pose on some ledge high above the river-bed. Steps lead down to the channel cleft by the mighty hand of nature throughout the countless ages. Here hundreds of feet below, the Grand River gurgles and splashes, heedless of the drama played on either side; here the limestone rocks form a giant border, a picturesque background for the camera lover, and a setting well worthy of Mother Nature who gave it birth.

Nearer to home the family may find some beauty spot amid the trees and lawns that border the roads and boulevards or again farther afield cities and towns adjacent may be visited at will, for good roads are found leading in every direction. Erin is a pleasant motor trip, while Georgetown, Hespeler, Galt, Preston, Kitchener and Waterloo will be a source of never ending pleasure to the motorist.

The business section of Guelph lined with stores on either side, where the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker are found; sterling men of worth, filled with civic pride, looking forth upon a city worthy of its noble funder. A large and commodious Y.M.C.A., ever careful of the young manhood of



RIVERSIDE PARK, GUELPH



our great Dominion, is situated on Quebec Street, while the young womanhood of our country is not forgotten by the Y.W.C.A., who occupy a cozy corner on St. George's Square. A Public Library, filled with book knowledge for the young and old, is maintained.

Volumes could be written describing ways and means whereby the residents of this city are amply endowed with things considered to smooth life's thorny path. Comfort abounds on every hand. The Hydro Electric supplies power transmitted from Niagara Falls; we touch a switch and we are heated, another switch and a flood of dazzling light fills our room. A water supply of crystal pure water is brought from Arkell, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the city.

The early settler had to cleave his way through the trackless forest; to-day we leisurely climb into our automobile, or seek the nearest street car, and are whirled from place to place be it for business or pleasure. The two great railways of Canada serve the city, namely, the C.N.R. and the C.P.R.; two stations, clean and well-kept, are ample to fill our requirements. In addition to the steam roads, the Toronto Suburban Electric Railway to and from Toronto and intermediate points runs at regular intervals. Bus lines also connect Guelph with other cities, and on Saturday afternoon or evening Wyndham Street presents a kaleidoscopic view, people from far and near coming to the city.

Thus we find Guelph, call it by whatever name you may, The Royal, The Musical, The Sport-loving, or The Good, for Ontario has recognized its goodness, having built a castle at Speedwell where the sinner may be regenerated; the Ontario Reformatory is worthy of a visit.

Well may we exclaim what a fulfillment to the dream of our great founder, could he but return to view the work so ably commenced, but that cannot be; we are like unto clay in the Potter's hand, and must pass on to claim our just reward be it for good or evil. May we leave behind, when the Grim Reaper calls, as glorious a heritage as that left by John Galt, the founder of the Royal City of Guelph.

We pass this way but once;
Any good that we can do, do it now,
For we will never pass this way again.



CHAPTER 2.

Whilst thus we linger near these ancient ruins,
Imagination, with her wizzard spell,
Delights to picture forth in airy dreams,
The half-forgotten deeds of former times.

THE FOUNDING OF THE ROYAL CITY.

Extracts from the Autobiography of John Galt, Esq.

IN Chapter 1, Vol. 2, "Autobiography of John Galt," we find the following sentiment expressed, "I did not feel myself entering seriously the Arena of life, till I undertook my second mission to Canada. Whatever I had done before or encountered seemed mere skirmishing to what then awaited me. I felt the full weight of my task, but with a persuasion that if it were well done, I would obtain a degree of enviable credit." There do you see the true man, the representative of a great company, who was about to embark upon a mighty project within the boundaries of a strange land; a man, who although he was the representative of a great company, was hampered with the most inconsistent restrictions, who was not even allowed a clerk, nor a confidential friend to whom he might unburden or seek advice and information. No doubt after arrival in Canada Mr. Galt made many friends, for he speaks kindly of those he had opportunity to receive hospitality from.

I will pass over his narration of events following his arrival in the country, and will deal more directly with his account of the founding of Guelph. In Chapter 8, page 53, it says, "I directed an inspection by qualified persons of a block of land or tract of upwards of 40,000 acres of the company's purchase, for the purpose of finding within it an eligible situation for a town. All reports made to me agreed in recommending the spot where Guelph now stands, and it was fixed upon." After a visit to New York, Mr. Galt, stating that it was still too early in the year for field operations, decided that operations should commence on St. George's Day, April 23rd. He, wishing to give that effect of ceremony to the mind of the settlers, as many of them were unlettered men, had chosen this day with design; being well aware of the effect of solemnity, he determined that this day should be so celebrated as to be held in remembrance, and yet so conducted as to be

accidentally impressive. Therefore, we read in Chapter 9, that on the 22nd day of April, 1827, "that being the day previous to the time appointed for laying the foundation of my projected polis, I went to Galt, a town on the banks of the Grand River." (Mr. Galt here states that the town of Galt, although bearing his name, was only so named by his friend the Hon. William Dixon as a token of remembrance and friendship toward him, and that it had arrived at maturity, having a post office long before he had ever heard of its existence, it having been founded before the Canada Company was organized.)

Here, Mr. Galt met by appointment Dr. Dunlop, who held a roving commission in the Canada Company, and was informed that the requisite woodmen were assembled. (To continue his narration of events.) "Next morning we walked after breakfast toward the site which had been selected, the distance of 18 miles from Galt, half of it through the forest. No accident happened until we entered the bush, when the doctor found that he had lost his way. I was exceedingly angry, for such an accident could not be considered a trifle in the Canadian woods, but after wandering up and down without comfort, the heavens frowning and the forest sullenly still, we discovered a hut, and after 'tirling at the pin' found a Dutchman, who set us upon our way, assisting us to find the skirts of the wild to which we were going. By this time it had commenced to rain, yet undeterred by circumstances we resumed our journey through the pathless wood. About sunset, dripping wet, we arrived near the spot we were in quest of; here we found the men, under the orders of Mr. Prior, whom I had employed for the Company, kindling a roaring fire. After endeavouring to dry ourselves and having recourse to the store basket, I proposed to go to the spot chosen for the town. By this time the sun was set, and Dr. Dunlop, with his characteristic drollery, doffed his wet garb and dressing himself Indian fashion in blankets, we proceeded with Mr. Prior, attended by two woodmen with axes.

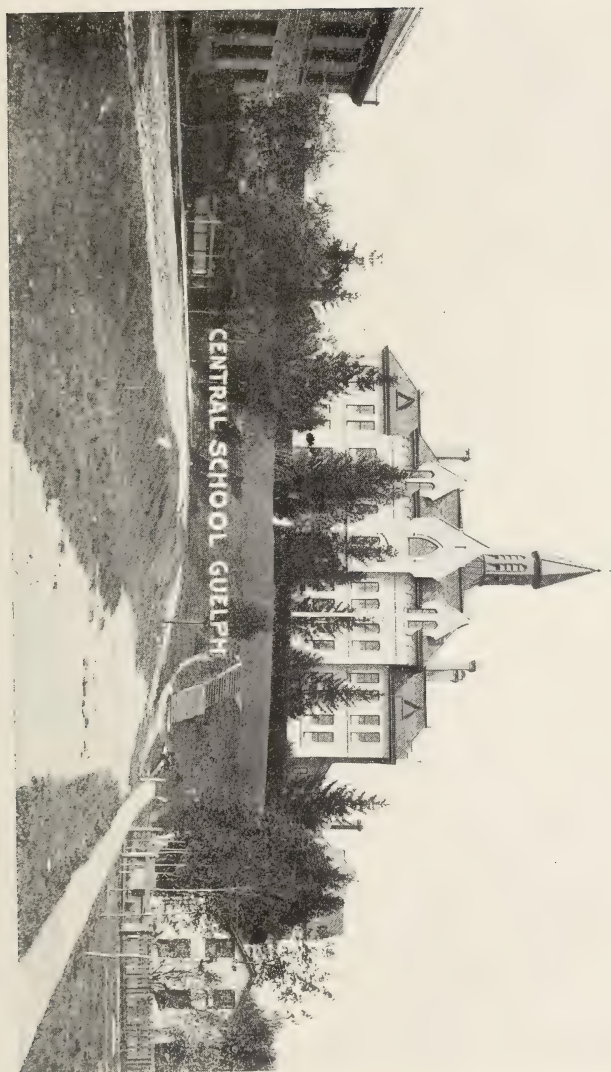
"It was consistent with my plan to invest our ceremony with a little mystery, the better to make it remembered. So, leaving the main body of the men behind, we walked to the brow of the neighbouring rising ground, and Mr. Prior having shewn the site selected, a large maple tree was chosen, on which, taking the axe from one of the woodmen, I struck the first stroke. To me at least the moment was impressive, and the silence of the mighty woods that echoed to the sound of the axestroke was as the sigh of the solemn genius of the wilderness departing forever.

"The Doctor followed me, then, if I recollect correctly, Mr. Prior, and the woodmen finished the work. The tree fell with a crash of accumulating thunder as if ancient nature were alarmed at the entrance of man into her solitude, with his sorrows, his follies, and his crimes. I do not suppose that the sublimity of the occasion was unfelt by the others, for I noticed that after the tree fell there was a funereal pause, as when a coffin is lowered into the grave; it was, however, of short duration, for the Doctor pulled a flask of whiskey from his bosom and we drank prosperity to the City of Guelph. The name was chosen in compliment to the Royal Family, both because I thought it auspicious in itself, and because I could not recollect that it had ever been used before in all the King's domain.

"We now returned to the shanty, and the rain, which had been suspended, began again to pour." (The next paragraph will show the great foresight of Mr. Galt; he goes on to say): "It may appear ludicrous to many that I looked upon this incident with gravity, but in truth I am very serious when I say that although Guelph is not so situated as ever to become celebrated for foreign commerce, yet the location possesses many advantages. It will be seen that it stands almost in the centre of the tableland which separates four of the great lakes, namely, Ontario, Simcoe, Huron and Erie, and though its own river Speed, as I named it, is not large, yet at the town it receives the Eramosa, and at a short distance flows into the Grand River which may be said to be navigable from the bridge at Galt to Lake Erie. By the Welland Canal the navigation is continued to Lake Ontario, thence by the Rideau Canal to the Grand Ottawa which flows into the St. Lawrence, and by the Lachine Canal it communicated with Montreal, and then to the ocean; advantages that few inland towns can boast of at such a distance from the sea.

"In planning the city, for I will still call it by that title, I had an eye to the futurity in the magnitude of the parts. A beautiful central hill was reserved for the Catholics in compliment to my friend, Bishop Macdonnell; the centre of a rising ground, destined to be hereafter a square, was appropriated to the Episcopal Church for Archdeacon Strachan; and another rising ground a little beyond for the Presbyterians.

"Education is a consideration so important to a community that it obtained my earliest attention, and accordingly I stipulated that half the price of the building sites should be appropriated to endow a school. The school house was thus



among the first buildings undertaken to draw settlers. The works and the roads drew from all parts a greater influx of inhabitants than was expected, insomuch that the rise of the town far surpassed my hopes. The population now exceeds, I am told, one thousand souls; mills projected having been built, a respectable bridge constructed, several taverns and a ballroom, and as a mark of the improved society there are, I have heard, several harps and pianofortes in the town. It was a matter of design to give a superior character to the place, and although the first settlers were not of that rank of life to make such things important, I encouraged dances and public associations among them. But I am perhaps anticipating that which ought to be deferred, for as yet, where the town is now spreading all was then wilderness, and nothing would seem so romantic as the building of such a Tadmore in the desert.

“Before the foundations of the town were laid land was valued in quarter sections at one shilling and three-pence per acre (30 cents), and the settled townships around at 75 cents per acre. When I left Guelph the lowest rate of land sold was fifteen shillings per acre (\$3.60); while the price in the neighbouring townships was estimated at ten shillings (\$2.40). Nearly, if not all, of the land in the township of Guelph is now sold, and all the houses which I ordered to be constructed have been done at prime cost. It was not my plan to sell the land so rapidly, nor was it judicious, for the value was increasing as the country became settled. But Guelph, like all cities fated with a high destiny, was the cause of quarrels; Romulus slew his brother over the city of Rome; and although my city is not likely to be honoured by warlike events, it yet gave rise to a controversy as worthy of commemoration. From the day I announced the birth of this metropolis to the directors of the Canada Company my troubles and vexations began and were accumulated on my unsheltered head till they could be no longer endured.”

Mr. Galt having effectually set the operations for the Canada Company going at Guelph, returned to the company's office at York, there being other business awaiting his attention, but later he returned to Guelph and inspected the improvements, of which Mr. Prior had been appointed overseer and manager, and was gratified at the condition of things. While in the town on this visit he states:

“The works done in this new settlement were attracting visitors from far and near.” Once when many strangers were

with him he desired the woodmen to open one of the projected streets, and they effected a clearing greater than the Avenue in Kensington Gardens, the trees much larger, in an hour and ten minutes. Guelph at that time consisted of a glade, opened through the forest about seven miles in length and one hundred and thirty feet wide, with stupendous trees on either side. Mr. Galt relates how a Yankee who visited the settlement exclaimed with delight, "What an Almighty place."

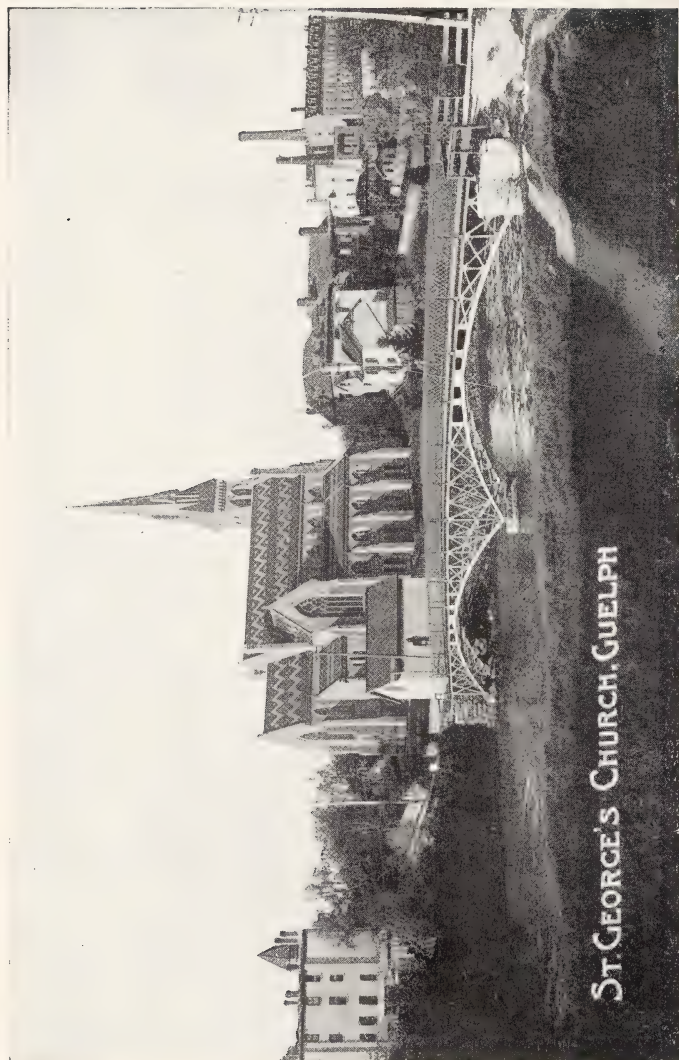
Immigration difficulties beset our Government in those days even as they do to-day, for as we read on we find Mr. Galt befriending a party of fifty-seven emigrants from South America who were in great necessity, they being obliged to subsist on charity. Mr. Galt sent them on to Guelph, giving them work in the service of the Canada Company; but destitution seemed to stalk these people, and Mr. Galt incurred both the displeasure of the Government and of his own company in his effort to protect them. However, it was found that they made good settlers, and Mr. Prior was instructed to build them houses and to assign them farms of fifty acres each, to waive the first payment and to give them all on credit, they paying interest at six per cent. The directors at home in London now apparently disapproved of the extensive proceedings at Guelph, and enemies both Canadian and British combined to hamper, if not to ultimately oust Mr. Galt from his position as Superintendent of the Canada Company. Nevertheless, he carried on, and on the 12th day of August, 1827, the first fair was held in Guelph, a public dinner was held in the market house, and Mr. Galt speaks of this with a tinge of sadness; he says that the fair and dinner passed as such festivals do, but to him it gave no pleasure; toasts were drunk to the King and Royal Family, the Governor-in-Chief, the Lieutenant-Governor and also to others, but remarks were so distorted by enemies, secret enemies, that the directors in London began to take up the strain. He received orders from them to change the name of the city from Guelph to Goderich; this he did not conform with, but answered that what had been done was done. However, another city founded on Lake Huron received the name Goderich. Still more condemnation was heaped upon the name Guelph, and Mr. Galt saw that this controversy was indulged in for the purpose of effecting his recall, so again he wrote in defence saying that the name he did not care two straws for, but that certain legal transactions had taken place and consent of the provincial parliament would have to be obtained before any change could be made. Nothing more was heard on this subject from London, and

Mr. Galt continued with improvements. He moved the office of the Canada Company from York to Guelph, and also took up a temporary residence there himself. In describing the Priory House he states that it was ten feet high in the ceiling, a cottage of one storey and formed of three trunks. It was shortly after this removal to Guelph that Mr. Galt decided to return to England. He felt that all was not well, and although his own mind acquitted him of error, for the evidence of prosperity around was ample proof of efficiency, yet grim foreboding of impending disaster haunted him. On the morning of his departure, the settlers came in a body to the front of his house and presented an address expressive of their thankfulness, and good wishes for a safe return. Thus did John Galt leave Guelph and returned to York where business affairs again took up his attention for a short time before bidding farewell to the scenes of his activities.

Back home in England he found critics awaiting him, all manner of charges were laid at his door, chief among them being over-expenditure at Guelph. Four thousand pounds had been allowed, and the excess did not exceed seven hundred pounds; so rapid had been the progress of the Guelph settlement that had the four thousand pounds been doubled it would have been well laid out. Mr. Galt says that he retired from the Arena of business with the sullenness of a vanquished bull, and devoted his remaining years to the pursuits of literature.

In 1832 he suffered a stroke of paralysis, and again later in the same year he was smitten with another stroke depriving him of the power of his right side and rendering him unable to turn in bed without assistance. Later he suffered another stroke, and as he said himself, "Became a sheer hulk, dependent upon others for assistance." Even a fourth stroke came that rendered his sight ineffectual. Still withal there streams forth that spirit of optimism which was so characteristic of the great man. He says, "I am like a cat that I was at the drowning of in my boyhood days, when a country carter, looking over my shoulder, said, 'It will take pains to kill her'."

Thus was Guelph born amid the glory of the primeval forest; and thus passed a great, good man from our ken; but his work was not in vain for the glory of the Royal City remains, and his name will be revered by its citizens while men live. Let us endeavour to make the city, our city, the city that John Galt planned, the city he saw as in a dream, the city that he would have if he were alive to-day.



CHAPTER 3.

By pointed aisle, and shafted stalk,
The arcades of an alleyed walk.

LETTERS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.

IT appears that among Mr. Galt's opponents was one Mr. Smith, accountant and cashier to the Canada Company who for the purpose of showing his own clever individuality, and also with a notion that he had been very badly used, prepared and published an address to the shareholders, making accusations against Mr. Galt. These accusations Mr. Galt met and successfully floored one by one. Mr. Galt upon arrival in Canada, had examined all the forms and books, also details of management used by other successful Land Companies, and he formed from this examination a system of management applicable to the Canada Company.

Upon receiving leave to pay out four thousand pounds, he commenced upon the largest block, which he named Guelph Township. This Mr. Smith distorted upon, and remarked repeatedly to the directors about the extravagant expenditure, which he said was four times four thousand pounds; he concealed the fact that the settlement had proceeded with unexampled rapidity, and that the outlay became greater than at first expected. When Mr. Smith arrived in Canada the office of the Canada Company had just been moved from York to Guelph, therefore certain confusion reigned, part of the desks and books being still on the road. This state of affairs was reported by Mr. Smith to his home office, but in such a way as to be injurious to his superior, Mr. Galt. It is natural that this gentleman should persist in his misrepresentations in connection with Guelph; he pronounced an opinion when he arrived both regarding the settlement and also in regard to the overseer, Mr. Prior.

In vindication of Mr. Galt, the following letter to the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Canada Company, written by Joseph Fellows, February 4th, 1829, will speak for itself:

“Guelph, Upper Canada, February 4, 1829.

“Gentlemen:

“At the request of John Galt, Esq., Supt. of the concerns of the Canada Company, I have visited this place, viewed the improvements in the village, and examined the roads contiguous to it, made under his orders.

“Considering the short period of time that has elapsed since the village as founded, and that it is only eighteen months since it was an entire forest, the number of buildings and the population are proof of uncommon industry and enterprise.

“I have perused with attention a report made to Mr. Galt by Mr. Charles Prior of the different improvements made by him on the lands of the company, under the direction of Mr. Galt, and I have the pleasure of expressing to you my most decided opinion that all the proceedings of Mr. Galt and Mr. Prior have been exceedingly judicious; that the improvements have been indispensable to the sale and settlement of the company's lands, and that the outlay for mechanics' and labourers' wages are as moderate as is usual in a new and unsettled country; for it is impossible in such a country to get good hands without the allowance of high wages as an inducement to submit to the inconveniences incident to labouring in the wilderness, remote from settlements, where many privations must be endured and the health greatly exposed. Mechanics' and labourers' wages are uniformly higher than they are after a more general improvement of the country.

“I am of the opinion that the sales thus far made have been at good prices, and the cash payments larger than is usually received from the first settlers in a new tract of land.

“I have examined the books in which sales are entered, and also certificates and contracts to purchasers, finding all well adapted to exhibit correct and accurate views of the affairs of the company.”

(It is needless to state verbatim all of this letter, but at the close Mr. Fellows states:)

“I think the present office of the company, in the village of Guelph, is quite insufficient for the convenient and proper execution of so extensive a concern, and that it will be convenient and necessary that a larger building be erected.

GUELPH—THE ROYAL CITY

“Upon the whole, I beg leave most respectfully to state to the company my decided opinion that Mr. Galt’s agency has been conducted with sound judgment, a proper regard to economy and the interests of the company; that his proceedings have promoted their best interests; and I believe the company cannot more effectually promote their own views than by delegating to him the most ample discretionary powers.

“I am, Gentlemen, your most humble servant.

(Signed)

“Joseph Fellows.”

Mr. Fellows, I may here state, was a disinterested party, being sub-agent for a large and competitive land concern doing business in New York State. It appears, however, that Mr. Galt had remitted the whole of the first year’s receipts, amounting to a little over three thousand three hundred and forty pounds, to the home office; this left him short of funds just at the time when Mr. Smith arrived from England. Considerable sums became due at Guelph, for which the workmen became clamorous, and Mr. Galt, as was natural to find in a man of his position, suffered from a degree of vanity, spurred on by ambition and resented the interference of Mr. Smith in what he considered matters that did not concern him. With all due respect to Mr. Smith, we find him stating in a letter to the company that Mr. Galt, through remitting the whole of his collections to England, had thrown the place into confusion,



leaving the people to starve until directions could be obtained from England. He further stated that he, Mr. Smith, had sacrificed himself for Mr. Galt, and that never had man laboured for another more than he had done for Mr. Galt, to receive ingratitude. To this Mr. Galt answered, "It has been a principle with me to pay as little money as possible to the workmen in summer, knowing that they would require all their earnings to keep them in winter. One of the evils I now suffer from is through Mr. Smith's ignorance of the business and of how to manage the people, they having spent their money paid by him in full are already besetting me for necessaries of life for their families."

All receipts were now locked up in such a way that Mr. Galt had no power over their use, and to further impede his progress the Bank of Upper Canada received orders from London not to acknowledge his draft. This institution received direct orders to keep all money received by it on account of the Canada Company at the disposal of the directors only, without explaining to Mr. Galt in what way current disbursements should be paid. It is not easy for us to judge to-day why the directors should take this unusual step; some undue and outside influence must have been brought to bear upon them. It is hard for us to judge between Mr. Galt and Mr. Smith, yet it seems to me that one was vain having accomplished much, ambitious to accomplish more, and resented interference; while the other came to Canada from England ignorant of the ways of the country, and unable to adapt himself as easily as did Mr. Galt, who was skilled in pioneer work. The directors of the Canada Company were all shrewd business men no doubt, merchants, lawyers and bankers; yet they were far removed from the scene, and had to rely upon hearsay; they, too, were unskilled pioneers; and whereas Mr. Galt was influenced by high ideals as well as business motives, he, being a dreamer, seeing visions of a great dominion, filled with beautiful cities, a happy and industrious people living therein, could not at times unbend or see the sordid purpose of a land-grabbing, mammon worshipping company. How could it be possible for John Galt, living as he did amid the glory of the primeval forest, to be else but a dreamer? From his own lips was told the tale of how one day he strayed into the woods on the edge of the township of Beverly and came upon a tree which at first glance reminded him of a London monument. He measured its girth at the height of a man from the ground, and it was thirty-three feet around, above which the trunk

rose for at least eighty feet devoid of branches, to be crowned at the top with vast branches, an oak, which lifted its head far above the rest of its fellows. He adds that he thought of taking measures to have this tree cut down, and of sending planks of it to Windsor Castle, this was never done; but he recommended the landlord at the nearest tavern to direct his guests to view this monarch of the forest. How then could he be else than a dreamer; the very forest instilled greatness into his soul, and the cry of his fellow-man drew forth compassion. Later in life, after he had left Canada, and when he turned to the pursuit of literature, we find his dreams immortalized.

The trials and tribulations of pioneer life left behind, the village that had been born in a great man's mind, and hewn from nature's wilderness, soon grew to boyhood, and from boyhood to manhood, but not without the accompanying vicissitudes that follow in the trail of youth.

THE FOUNDING

Silent and still, the deepening twilight gathered
O'er all the land, as sank the evening sun;
Night, like a shroud, enwrapped the mighty forest
Calling to all, "Seek rest, the day is done,"
But who is this, that seeks not rest, a stranger
Speaks he with others, be they friend or foe.
What do they want within this forest bosom,
Ask they for shelter or its overthrow?

Hark, through the gloom a clang of steel awakens
Echoes that ring far out o'er hill and plain
Echoes so strange all nature waits dumbfounded
Till through the gloom resounds that clang again.
Clang unto clang the rugged monarchs tremble
What rude invasion dare thus disturb their realm,
What puny creature dare thus invade their stronghold
Seeking to combat, and to overwhelm?

Man with his crime, his sorrow and his folly,
Had come at last unto their dark domain.
Nature alarmed, its voice rolled forth in anger,
As downward crashed the mighty monarch slain.
Then comes a pause, a pause as if of mourning,
While the sad wind it sobbed a low refrain,
While overhead the swiftly gathering stormcloud
Wept through the branches, wept its tears of rain.

Nature be fair for this thou wert created,
O'er thee dominion, supreme gift to man,
With thee at last the race to stand victorious,
Complete and finished then God's wondrous plan.

A. W. D.



GENERAL HOSPITAL, GUELPH

CHAPTER 4.

Be mine the hut
That from the mountain-side views wilds and swelling floods,
And hamlets brown, and dim discovered spires,
And hears their simple bell, and marks o'er all
Eve's dewy fingers draw
The gradual dusky veil.

Collins.

A GROWING VILLAGE.

TRADITION states that Mr. Galt laid his hand upon the tree stump, with fingers outstretched, saying as he did so that the proposed streets would radiate from this central point even as his fingers radiated from his hand. Some people credit Mr. Prior with this remark; while again others say that a compass was used to indicate direction of streets. We are told that the location of this tree stump, or the place where the tree stood, that was cut down on that memorable day, April 23, 1827, was at the southwest end of the C.N.R. railway bridge over the Speed River, now covered by the railway embankment; therefore, I state from personal inspection of this neighborhood that I accept the tradition as told with reference to Mr. Galt placing his hand on the tree stump, for do not the streets radiate from the vicinity of this point even as the finger radiate from the human hand?

The fate that has overtaken this memorable spot is to be deplored, yet we must bend before the majesty of commerce and the city has gained more than was lost, by having the service of a mighty railroad. For a great number of years the tree stump was cared for, it being fenced around by Major Strickland, and in 1828 the top had been levelled and planed, a sundial placed thereon, serving for years as the town timepiece; but in 1843 the stump disappeared, by falling into decay.

The first few weeks immediately after founding were spent in a struggle against the rugged and strongly entrenched monarchs of the forest, pioneers went to work chopping and logging, the clearance being made in the vicinity of what is now Market Square. As the trees were cut shanties and log-

houses were built, the Priory being built for, and occupied by Mr. Galt, the first stone house in the settlement was built by one J. D. Oliver, and the first frame house and store by one David Gilkinson.

As stated in a previous chapter, a school was one of the early buildings to be erected, an American named Davies being the first teacher. After the school came the building of a market house, this being built about midway between Huskisson and Neeve Streets, and many a settler with his family put in their first night in Guelph on the rough hewn sleepers of the market house. Sheds and storehouses were also built for the use of the Canada Company, and a stone building was erected to do duty as a bank.

The market house was the scene of the first fair in the village of Guelph, a great barbecue was held. We are told that four posts were driven into the earth, and from them was suspended an ox, then the fire was kindled while the people gathered around. After the barbecue drink was served and toasts were drunk to everybody and everything.

For a great number of years the village had no baker, baking being done by a woman who baked for sundry persons when she had time. The first baker to settle in Guelph built his oven of limestone, it being built outside in the open air; unfortunately it was not a success, for like Adam he listened to the wiles of a woman, being told by the woman baker, perhaps while she was in a competitive spirit, that he should heat his oven to white heat; this he did, with disastrous results, the oven crumbling to pieces.

In the summer of 1832 a large party of immigrants arrived from England. They, being people of means, commenced to build, and clear land. Others arrived from Ireland, and houses sprang up like mushrooms on all sides. St. George's Church was built in 1833, and the first Catholic Church was built that same year. The following year, 1834, saw the building of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and in that same year the Methodist Church was built.

In 1833 a Court of Requests for recovery of debt was established, and ten years later the new jail was finished. The first man to be confined therein was one James Lindsay, arrested for cattle stealing.



COUNTY COURT HOUSE, GUELPH.

The years 1837-1838 were bleak, cold years for the growing village. Trade depression resulting from the Rebellion hung like a pall over the settlers, and to make matters worse a rebel body was reported to be lying in wait for the purpose of sacking the town. Famine almost overtook the residents, but the spirit of "carry on" prevailed, leading through the darkness into the light of a new day.

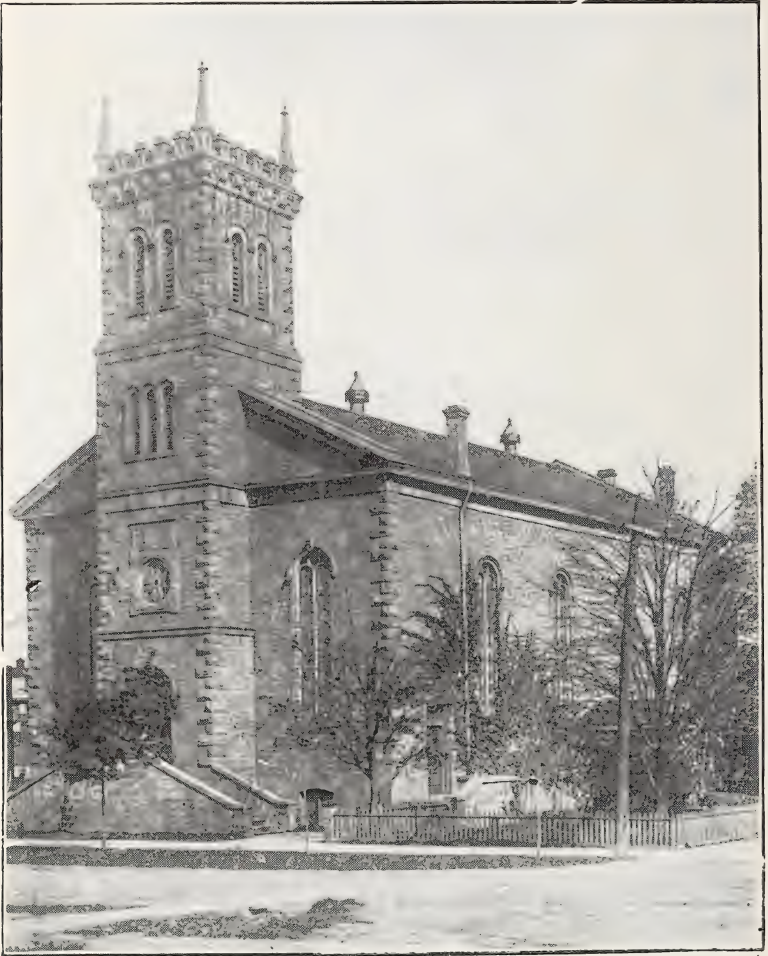
Efforts to establish a paper were made from time to time, but failure resulted, until in 1845 John Smith commenced the "Advertiser." This paper was conducted by him until the year 1857, when it was purchased by Mr. P. Clerihew; but in 1858 the "Advertiser" again changed hands, being published for twelve years by Mr. J. Wilkinson. Another paper, the "Herald," was established in 1847 by Mr. George Pirie, and the "Mercury" by Mr. G. M. Keeling.

In October, 1841, a serious fire occurred at Wyndham and Macdonnell Streets, about twelve of the best stores in the town being destroyed; and in December of that same year another disastrous fire occurred on Wyndham at Quebec Street.

The year 1850 saw the opening of the Mechanics' Institute, while the corner stone of the new St. George's Church was laid

GUELPH—THE ROYAL CITY

on July 17th, 1851. The corner stone of the Methodist Church was laid on April 23rd, 1854, and the Baptist Church was opened for services on July 8th, 1854. 1851 also saw the formation of the Guelph Horticultural Society.



NORFOLK STREET METHODIST CHURCH, GUELPH.

Considerable attention was being attracted toward Guelph at this time, not only throughout Canada but also from the United States, on account of the important position it was assuming in manufacture and commerce.

In the year 1854-1855 the first link of the Grand Trunk Railway was built. This gave impetus to the prosperity of Guelph; like an artery radiating new blood to some extreme part of the human body, even so did this artery of commerce lend life as well as give a means of outside communication; over whose rails the product of ever-increasing industries could be shipped. Supplies could now be received quickly, whereas previous to the advent of the railroad everything had to be conveyed over poor roads. Following the entry of the G.T.R. other branches were built, the Galt and Guelph branch being the main.

The bridge across the River Speed at Eramosa was a cumbersome affair, being christened by the inhabitants as "Break-neck Bridge." This was replaced by another structure of iron. We can look back and picture the old bridge; here was the Speed River flowing as it does to-day, faster no doubt for man and the advent of industry has checked its flow by damming; on either side was a steep incline leading down to the bridge. This incline has been graded down and now the approach to the bridge is gradual, in fact on the east side it is for some distance rising before crossing. The hills ranging along the east side of the river rise to a height of 800 feet above lake level, being crowned by beautiful residences, but then they were crowned by mighty trees. The first enterprise in the city had the effect of diverting the growth westward, and ever westward has it gone, although to-day the large industries are situated toward the south where rail facilities are more accessible.

The Catholic Convent was built in 1855, and in 1856 Guelph was incorporated as a town. So did our Royal City of to-day pass beyond the embryo stage, carried forward by perseverance, the willingness to endure that marks all pioneers. Capital is ever essential, but our grandfathers had but little. They had courage aplenty, for no man or woman could ever endure without courage; it was grit that counted when men had to hew their path through the trackless forest; it was grit that counted when women had to sit alone with but a flickering light awaiting the return of their menfolk with supplies carried over rough roads, perhaps huddling their children around them as the eerie call of a wolf summoned the pack, for we are told that wolves howled on the outskirts of the village. There were few corner stores, there was no rural delivery, the telephone was unheard of, poverty and obscurity were the lot of many; yet their footsteps have been planted so firmly that we can tread the trail they blazed without fear for the future or regret for the past.

CHAPTER 5.

A bright creation into being starts,
And grace and beauty to the scene imparts;
Correct in its proportions, simple, chaste,
A splendid specimen of modern taste.

INCORPORATED AS A TOWN.

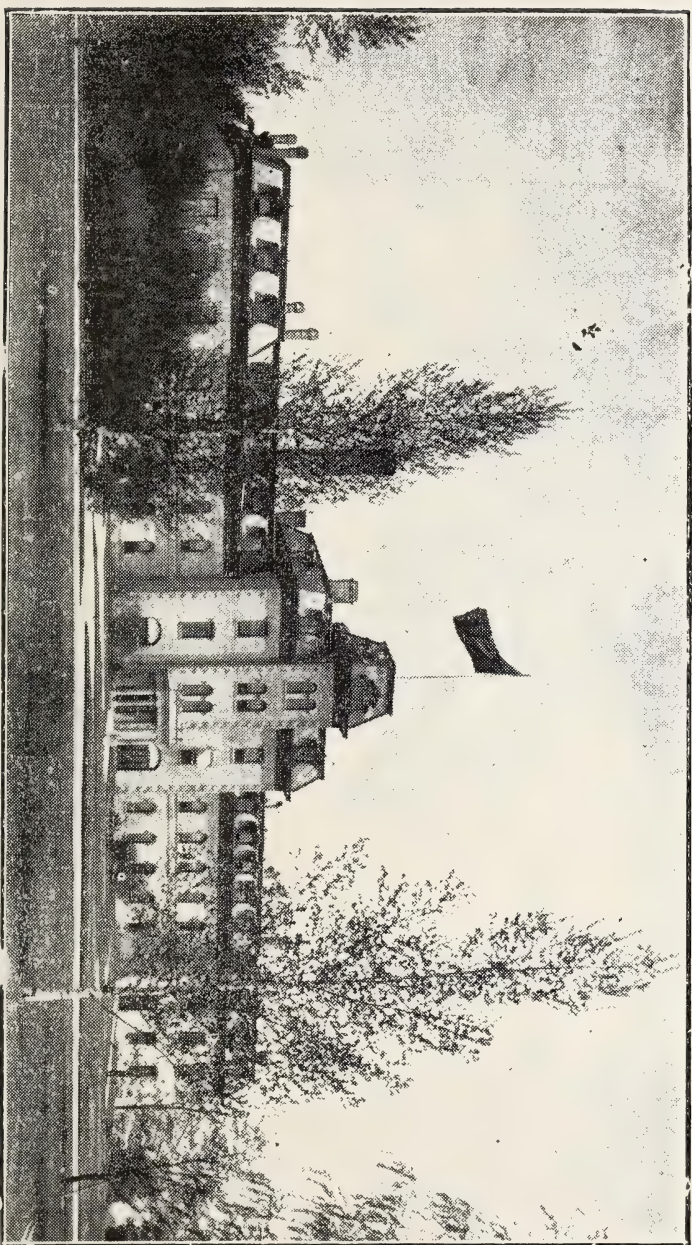
JANUARY 30th, 1856, was a red-letter day in the history of Guelph, for on that day the first train to pass over the Grand Trunk rails entered the town. Great enthusiasm was manifested by the townspeople; hundreds gathered beside the tracks, while cannon were fired in honour of the occasion; but the first train to enter was not made the official entry. The formal entry of the railway took place on March 14th of that same year. Two hundred people leaving Toronto in the forenoon arrived at Guelph in the afternoon about three o'clock, and were met and honoured by the residents.

The Methodist Church was finished on March 2nd; and at this time a subscription of \$400.00 was raised for the purpose of erecting a monument to Mr. Galt, but the matter was dropped and a favourable opportunity passed.

On July 12th a riot took place between a party of Orangemen and Catholics. The Orangemen were returning from a picnic and were set upon with sticks and stones. The riot became so bad that soldiers were called to the scene, but the rioters were not dispelled without bloodshed.

On September 18th the corner stone of the new Market House was laid, and there was deposited a lithographed map of the town, copies of the town papers, one Victoria sovereign, one Victoria florin, one Victoria shilling, one Victoria sixpence, one Canada penny. Many people were gathered together for the occasion, and the bands played while rifles were fired by the guard of honour.

The year 1858, in the month of October, saw the failure of the International and Colonial Bank.



MAIN BUILDING, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH

In June, 1860, the Guelph Herald, a weekly paper up to that date, now decided to publish twice weekly instead of once as before.

The gala day in the history of the Royal City came and went with the visit of the Prince of Wales to the town. The streets were decorated and en fete, and in the evening brilliant illumination lit up the town, storekeepers vying with each other as to the extent and kind of display to be made. Union Jacks and bunting streamed from the windows, while the royal purple was in evidence everywhere. This visit took place on September 12th, 1860. A platform was built at the Grand Trunk station, and it was there that the crowd waited. Upon his arrival the Prince left the train with his retinue, freely mingling with the people for a few moments; he then inspected the guard of honour, and later made a flying trip through the business section of the town. Referring to this visit, he wrote, "At Guelph the first imposing spectacle after leaving Toronto was presented, an appearance of prosperity pleasing to behold. The most attractive town I have yet beheld in Upper Canada, some splendid buildings, and more than one elegant row of houses and shops adorn the streets. The town is of stone, a kind of limestone, and I will venture to say that Guelph is destined to become one of the finest and richest districts in Canada West, no British capitalist can do wrong in investing capital there." Those were the words of Edward, Prince of Wales, later in life to be Edward the King, Edward the Peacemaker, and those are the words that ring true to-day.

The corner stone of the new St. George's Church was laid on May 23rd, 1871; and in December of that same year the Guelph Herald passed into the hands of Chadwick and Company, becoming a daily paper. Mr. Pirie, the former editor, died in 1870, Guelph losing through his death a valuable citizen.

December, 1871, saw the opening of Chalmers Church; also the holding in Guelph of a Central Exhibition.

In 1874 the Ontario Agricultural College was established, and December, 1875, witnessed the opening of the new Town Hall, the formal opening being followed by a grand ball and supper. The Central School was also opened in this year, and in the following year, 1876, the first sod for the foundation of

the new Catholic Church was turned; also the Government buildings, Post Office, etc., were commenced. The year 1877 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the growing town, soon to become a city, and it is opportune to quote a statement from the Toronto Colonist referring to Guelph:

“Guelph is fortunate in possessing a building stone easily worked, and pleasing in appearance, this being well displayed in a street, called Wyndham Street. St. George’s Church now finished, a handsome building, is on this street. The new market is a fine substantial edifice. The trade and manufactures of Guelph are rapidly increasing, and the completion of the Grand Trunk renders communication with Toronto and Montreal direct.”

Events too numerous to mention in this record of the Royal City took place during the intervening years between the incorporation as a town and the incorporation as a city. This is but a sketch of what really was important, and for Guelph one of the most important events was its creation as a city in 1879.

Hillside clad with forest splendour,
Crowned with Maple, Elm and Oak;
Pathless wild of virgin beauty
Made for mankind to unlock.
There the swiftly flowing river
Indian trail and lone tepee
There the Redmen journeyed southward,
Southward to the Inland Sea.

Gone forever virgin forest,
Gone the Indian and tepee
No more birch canoe may travel
Southward to the Inland Sea.
For the homes of men now cunning,
Crown the hilltop, and the side
While the swiftly flowing river
Harnessed by mankind its tide.

A. W. D.

CHAPTER 6.

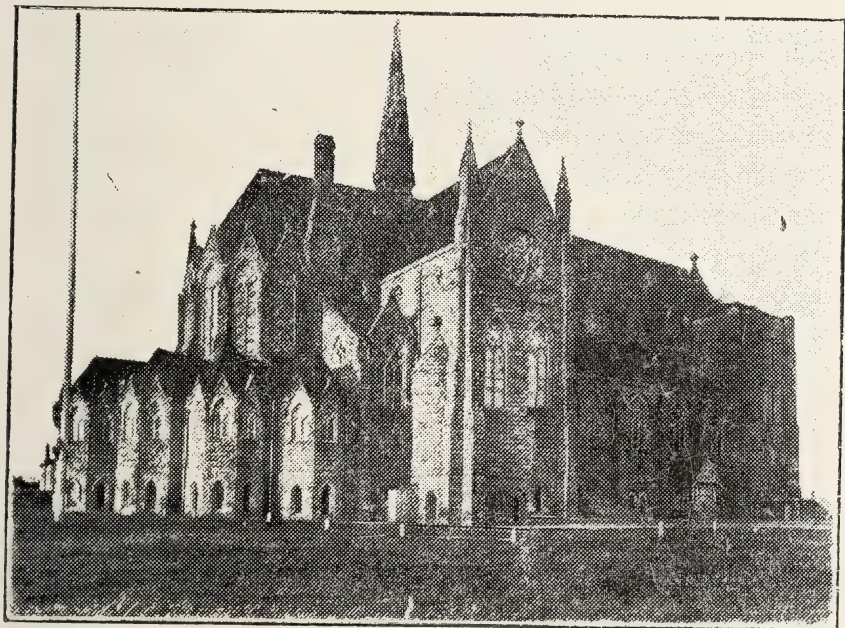
I'll view the manners of the town,
Peruse the traders, gaze upon the buildings
And wander up and down to view the city.

Shakespeare.

THE CITY OF OPPORTUNITY.

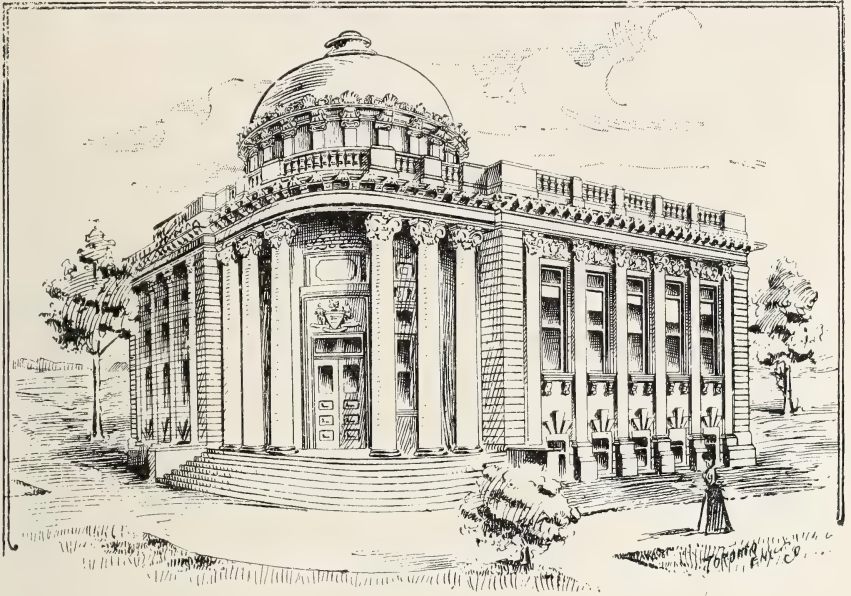
GUELPH was incorporated as a city in 1879; the population as given for 1875 was 8,584, and three years later, in 1878, the population was 10,000 people. The city was now growing by leaps and bounds; public buildings were being erected; manufacturers were locating; and an air of prosperity prevailed. The city boasted of two daily papers, and a new social order arose making residence more agreeable than it had been in the past.

The waterworks were commenced and finished in 1879-1880. The new Catholic Church was being built, the corner stone having been laid on July 5th, 1877. This church was



designed by Father P. Hamel, who, working in conjunction with Joseph Connelly, an architect, perfected a plan that resembled Cologne Cathedral; yet even more than a resemblance exists, the splendid edifice is a miniature Cologne even to detail, and has been styled the Cologne of Canada. In 1885 Father W. Doherty completed the construction of the nave and tower, and the church now stands crowning the hill upon which it is built, majestic and stately both in outward appearance and in interior decoration. (The visitor to Guelph will find a handbook giving a description and explanation of the interior and an insight into the decorative scheme with its meaning.) A mention of other churches is not here amiss, and a brief outline as follows will give an idea of how the city looked at this period in its history. Norfolk Street Methodist Church completed in 1855, Dublin Street Methodist Church in 1874, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in 1858, Chalmers Presbyterian Church in 1871, and St. George's Episcopal Church in 1871-1872. Other splendid edifices were built later. So progressive had the residents of the city become that in 1888 they decided and undertook to build a spur line to connect with the C.P.R. at Campbellville, a distance of 16 miles, at a cost of \$200,000.00, in return for which they received 40% of the earnings. Manufacturers who were then established in the city, and others who came later, were as follows: James Goldie Company Limited, 1860; The Bell Piano Company Limited, 1864; Tolton Bros., Limited, 1875; The Guelph Carpet Mills Company Limited, 1876; James Steele Limited, 1885. In later years came to Guelph the Guelph Cotton Mills, The Guelph Worsted Spinning Company Limited, The Guelph Oiled Clothing Company Limited, The Dominion Linens Limited, The International Malleable Iron Company Limited, The Taylor-Forbes Co., The White Sewing Machine Company, The Gilson Manufacturing Company Limited, and The F. E. Partidge Rubber Company Limited. These being but a few of the many industries now settled in the city; they, having weathered the storm, are firmly established, being among the largest. For example, The Taylor-Forbes Company Limited whose factories cover nearly eight acres of ground.

The first meeting of the Free Library Board was held on February 8th, 1883, but not until April 23rd, 1903, was the corner stone of the beautiful building now occupied as a library



laid. This handsome structure built through the benevolence of Mr. Carnegie, who donated \$24,000.00 toward its endowment, having over 20,000 volumes on its shelves, stands in the centre of the city on a plot of land, though limited, yet which gives the appearance of a park with trees and shrubbery surrounding it. Across from the library stands another magnificent building, the Young Men's Christian Association, built in 1912.

The Guelph Junction Railway was completed in 1889; and in 1892 permanent sidewalks were laid throughout the city. In 1895 tracks were completed for the running of street cars; then in 1900 was held the Winter Fair.

To-day, if you are looking for a place in which to establish an industry, before going far afield see Guelph. If you are looking for a place to find, grow or make some article of commerce, see Guelph. Guelph is endowed by nature to be an industrial centre; it is rich in things that make life worth while for the employer and for the employee. Two essentials in manufacturing are water and power; the city owns and operates its own waterworks system, gas works, street railway

GUELPH—THE ROYAL CITY

and electric lighting plant; therefore, to new industries is offered pure water, fire protection and Hydro Electric energy at \$19.00 per h.p. The estimated annual revenue to plants already here was \$20,000,000.00 in 1923.

Advertising facilities are offered through the medium of the Ontario Agricultural College, the Provincial Winter Fair and the Sheep Breeders' Association, organizations that bring thousands of farmers and tourists to the city. Special excursions are made to the Ontario Agricultural College from all over the Dominion, more than 50,000 farmers visiting the city throughout the course of a year. An active Chamber of Commerce is maintained, and a progressive City Council guides the tiller with a Mayor on the bridge to extend a welcome to all who may wish to investigate Guelph. A permanent City Manager is engaged by the Council to take charge of all civic utilities or public works. Building permits for the year ending 1923 were \$571,484.00, while \$43,699.00 were spent on the waterworks. The assessment increase was \$1,523,266.00. Labour troubles are unknown in the city, employers and employees exhibiting a spirit of close co-operation. Homes for the labouring class may be had at low rental, or purchased on Government loan of 90% of the cost price.



The Ontario Provincial Fair is well worthy of mention, the average attendance being over 50,000. The prize money paid being approximately \$25,000.00. Over 1,000,000 pounds of wool are sent to the Fair from all parts of Ontario to be sold by The Sheep Breeders' Association. Cattle, horses and poultry are exhibited, it being the best poultry show in Canada.

Among the public buildings are eight schools, a collegiate-vocational institute, and Loretto Academy with three separate schools. The Collegiate-Vocational Institute, erected at a cost of almost \$500,000.00, modern to a detail both in education and equipment; spacious, well lighted rooms for study, a splendid hall for social gatherings, and modern sanitary arrangements make this one of the most up-to-date institutes of learning within the Dominion. A teaching staff of twenty-four, all teachers of high academic standing, having as a Principal Mr. J. F. Ross, M.A., seconded by Mr. James Davison, B.A., endeavour to uphold the already far-famed reputation of the Institute. Churches comprise the following: St. George's Church (Anglican) on Woolwich Street; St. James' Church (Anglican) on Glasgow Street; Woolwich Street Baptist; St. Andrews, Chalmers, Knox and St. Paul's Presbyterian Churches; Norfolk Street, Dublin Street, Paisley Memorial and B.M.E. Methodist Churches; the Congregational Church; Disciples of Christ Church; Plymouth Brethren Church; St. Paul's Lutheran Church; while the Christadelphians meet at Carnegie Library Hall. Worthy of mention is the Salvation Army, who have a Citadel, and a band that is prominent.

The street railway is convenient and regular, serving all parts of the city. Tracks are laid along Wyndham Street, cars running out Elora Road past Riverside Park; another line runs along Suffolk Street; while Waterloo Avenue, College Heights and York Road are served.

Over 8 miles of paved streets, 62 miles of concrete sidewalks and 17 miles of sewer are within the city limits. There is a proposed driveway along the banks of the River Speed. The new national highway, proposed by the Ontario Government from Toronto to Sarnia will pass through Guelph, and through the heart of Ontario, connecting with the Michigan State highway. The visitor approaching Guelph to-day will first be impressed by the solidity of the city. Visitors may not exclaim, "What an almighty place," for surely we are not vain enough to imagine that we are the hub of creation, yet we are the hub within a hub, and as such we keep turning. The second gasp of amazement from the visitor will be upon beholding the Church of Our Lady, then will follow the Ontario

GUELPH—THE ROYAL CITY

Agricultural College with its beautiful grounds, the Armoury is well worth a visit, and the view to be had from the water tower should not be missed. From here a panorama is unfolded to the eye, stretching far away toward Speedwell, and to the O.A.C., while in between lies the industrial district. The road leading from College Heights to the city is also enchanting as a picture; the solid city of stone, with the bold Church crowning the hill, the rising hillsides with beautiful homes forming a background that adds to the beauty of the scene.



Y.M.C.A. BUILDING, GUELPH.

The World War found Guelph ready at the call, and both men and money responded. The wheels of industry fashioned articles of warfare, while the men brought glory and renown to their city. Many homes were left desolate when father, son or brother responded to the call; many homes are still desolate, but to those who mourn we say, "Mourn not, for their name liveth forever." No monument has yet been erected to those who fell, and Guelph may be called the Monumentless City; for no monument to our founder adorns the parks or public squares; yet let it be hoped that somewhere in the not



MASSEY LIBRARY, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH.

too distant future the citizens of this splendid city will erect a monument both to the founder and to those who lie in Flanders' Fields, a monument that will credit the Royal City.

At the close of the World War in 1919, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited Guelph. Unlike the auspicious occasion when our town was visited by his Royal Grandfather, the day chosen for the visit of the Prince was dull and drear, a heavy rain marred the proceedings as far as a public reception went. The Prince left his train and was motored to Speedwell (then a hospital for our wounded soldiers), from the Speedwell he motored to the Ontario Agricultural College. He was unable to see the city to the best advantage, nevertheless, he came, he saw, and he conquered, for all the world loves a Prince, and especially Guelph, the Royal City, loves a Prince of Guelph. Had he been able to view the city under pleasant weather conditions, he might have repeated the words of his royal and illustrious grandfather Edward VII.

The present year, 1924, witnessed the absorption of the "Guelph Herald" by the "Mercury," Proprietor and Publisher J. I. McIntosh, leaving but one paper to serve the citizens; this service is sufficient, being supplemented by the Toronto dailies and other papers.

The farmer who may locate near Guelph will find a district where mixed farming prevails, also the raising of live stock; while the county has six creameries and two factories for butter and cheese manufacture.

The future of our Royal City still lies within the crystal, with plenty of opportunity for capital to expand and a welcome to men and women who desire to work for success.

Three more years will see the end of our first century, and on the 23rd day of April, 1927, will begin the second. What will it hold in store for Guelph? Will the citizens of Guelph arise to grasp their opportunity, or will they lie back in lethargy vainly imagining that this opportunity will stand forever outside their door? Opportunity is forever present but at times she is vague and elusive; whoever said she knocked but once committed himself to a falsehood, she knocks to-day, but to-morrow we may not hear her although she is still present awaiting us to grasp but the hour when fortune beckons and ambition points the way.

CHAPTER 7.

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

Exalt her and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

To get wisdom is better than gold, and to get understanding rather to be chosen than riches.

Proverbs of Solomon.

THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

IT would be amiss for me to lay aside my pen, and fail to have given special mention to the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. A volume could be written without doing justice to this wonderful and useful institution. Since it was established, and its doors open for the enrollment of students on May 4th, 1874, over 25,000 men and women have passed through the various classes, attracted to this college from all parts of the world.

Drawing near to the close of the first half century, holding a high place among colleges of its class, in fact taking premier place among such institutions of learning, we find its graduates holding high positions in many countries, South Africa having called for O.A.C. men, while many are found throughout the United States.

The college situated on College Heights commanding a spacious and beautiful view of the surrounding country, within easy distance of the city, having a street car service to its doors, and a paved highway through its grounds. The farm comprising in all over seven hundred acres, with twenty buildings equipped for instruction, and research, also barns and other outbuildings, the whole making a stately group, with lawns, and campus well kept. During the summer months the lawns are a blaze of colour, with flowers and shrubbery that is a delight to the beholder.

A faculty consisting of seventy-five able men comprise the teaching staff, an athletic and social life among the students that compares favourably with any university, but the main object of the college being "To educate men and women in the pursuits of agriculture, to conduct experiments, and to publish the knowledge derived therefrom."



MACDONALD HALL AND INSTITUTE, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH

Looking back to the early days, we find that the stormy petrel spread its wings in close proximity, all was not the bed of roses that we find today, yet the end has more than justified the means. Back in 1840 the idea of an Agricultural College and Experimental Farm for the Province of Ontario was conceived by Professor Buckland, of Toronto University, and later a gentleman named Rev. W. T. Clark, Editor of the "Canada Farmer," was appointed by the government as Commissioner to investigate agricultural research, after his report had been made, the government purchased Moreton Lodge Stock Farm in 1873.

The first Principal was Henry McCandless, a graduate of Dublin University; he resigned at the end of three months, and was succeeded by Charles Roberts, who also resigned from office in about the same time. The third Principal to undertake the task was William Johnston, a graduate of Edinburgh University. Mr. Johnston asked for five years to lay the foundation, and with true Scot's stick-to-it-iveness he laid it securely and firmly. Not even the storm of time has shaken that foundation, but has built upon it stone by stone. In 1879 Mr. Johnston was succeeded by Dr. James Mills, and in 1884 the college was affiliated with the University of Toronto; then in 1888 the first degree was given.

Dr. James Mills remained as Principal for a period of twenty-five years, being succeeded in 1904 by Dr. G. C. Creelman, who remained in office until 1920, when the present able executive, Mr. J. B. Reynolds, took a firm grip upon the reins.

The work of the college is but commencing; through its efforts the first Aberdeen-Angus Cattle were imported into the country, but to sum up the value in dollars and cents is futile, it is worth a great deal to Guelph, a great deal to Ontario, but its value to the men and women who partake at its fountain of knowledge cannot be computed in mere figures. The problem of the farmer is its problem, the problem of the rural community is its problem, there do we find the justification for the Ontario Agricultural College and its work.

The year 1923 witnessed the opening of a building to be used as a Veterinary College, and again plans are on foot for the erection of a building at a cost of \$40,000.00 to be used as a College for Bakers. Well indeed might Guelph be proud of its College, that progressive place of beauty we see crowning the summit of College Heights, having an environment that is educative, proudly approaching fifty years of service well

given, and a work well done, can still go forward with the spirit of "Carry on," the spirit of the one hundred and ten College men who made the supreme sacrifice. This year, 1924, witnesses the opening of Memorial Hall, one of the most handsome structures within the grounds. The building was made possible by a grant from the Government, and also by the generosity of faculty, students and ex-students who desire to commemorate the service and sacrifice of those whose names are inscribed on the memorial tablet within. This tablet will be within a room dedicated as Memorial Room, and at the west end of the hall, while a memorial window will face Brock Road.

War, the curse of humanity, that brings tragedy and sorrow, also brings the spirit of courage, service and sacrifice, and in that spirit may the dedication of Memorial Hall mean much to the Ontario Agricultural College, in that spirit may it face the future without dismay.

THE HOUR GLASS.

A century all but ends, a bell tolls low and deep,
The sand of time sinks far within the glass
A few more grains,
To trickle, then the dawn of a new era,
Breaks.
Shall we still sleep, still slumber on serene,
Unmindful of the call.
Or shall we rise, renewed in heart and soul
To struggle and to strive afresh to win the prize, or gain the
 covet goal?
Be mindful of the past, of one whose name
Lives on amid the glory of his work.
His race is run, to him the victor's crown
A great achievement stands memorial to that fame.
The fame of doing well, and passing on
The deed well done to others then unborn,
But heirs to-day of one rich heritage,
A heritage of gold wherein mankind stands free,
Untrammelled by the chains
That once did bind our race to wheels of servitude.

A. W. D.

